

### Japan Opened—Satisfactory Result of Commodore Perry's Visit.

Three Ports Opened to American Trade—Agreement to Furnish Coal to American Steamers—Interesting Narrative—Detailed Account of Commodore Perry's Second Visit.

The *Susquehanna* arrived at Hong Kong from Japan on the 2d (April), bringing the gratifying intelligence that Commodore Perry had succeeded in the objects of his mission in a manner that will confer honor on his country and enduring fame on himself. The precise terms of a commercial treaty had not been definitively arranged when the *Susquehanna* left the Yedo on the 24th of March; but enough had been done to establish a friendly feeling between the two countries. The opening of three or more ports to the commerce of America, and the furnishing of coals for its steamers, may be considered as matters settled, and Captain Adams held himself in readiness to proceed in the *Saratoga* to bear the intelligence to the government at Washington.

We are unable to furnish our readers with a detailed narrative of the proceedings in Japan, from which it will be seen that nothing could have better or more fortunate than the course pursued by Commodore Perry.

He has peacefully and amicably opened it to the intercourse of his countrymen, without firing a shot or using an angry word.

Commodore Perry, in the *Susquehanna*, left the harbor of Hong Kong on the 14th of January, accompanied by the *Powhatan* and the *Mississippi*, the sailing vessels *Vandalia*, *Southampton*, *Supply* and *Lexington*, having some time before proceeded to the rendezvous at Napakiang in Loo Choo, where the squadron met on the 21st of January.

The sailing vessels were dispatched for Japan on the last day of January, under the command of Captain Abbot, the steamships following on 7th February, and, along with the sloop *Saratoga* from Shanghai, joining the sailing vessels in the waters of Japan on the 12th, without accident beyond the temporary grounding of the *Macedonia*, which was lightened and speedily got off.—The whole squadron then proceeded and anchored in the bay of Yedo, passing Uraga, where last year the interview and the delivery of the President's letter took place. A few small forts, mounting ten or twelve guns each, were observed, but made no hostile demonstrations. Boats were not allowed to come alongside until the vessels had taken their stations, and the Government officers were directed to the *Powhatan*, (to which the Commodore's flag had been removed,) where they had an interview on the 13th with the fleet Captain Adams, to whom, after the exchange of compliments, the Japanese stated that in a few days a special high officer would be sent to Yedo to meet the Commodore and arrange everything in a courteous, frank, and friendly manner; but they objected that the vessels had come too far up, and recommended their return to Uraga, where the Emperor desired the meeting should be held as before; and that point they considered as of more importance than talking about the weather, which subject would seem to be the *pis-aller* of conversation in Japan as in all the rest of the world. We believe this was nearly all that passed during the first interview, and the deputation took leave in good humor, which grew to meriment, upon Captain Adams suggesting, that instead of returning to Uraga, perhaps a more favorable anchorage might be found higher up, and nearer the capital, which would also be more convenient for the high officers to be sent from Yedo, as well as in accordance with the customs of other nations.

After much talk on the subject, the Japanese at length left it to the Commodore to select a place for interview. Before taking leave the deputation said if the ships needed water or provisions, boats would be sent with supplies; they were told that, except water, nothing else was likely to be required.

After mature consideration, Commodore Perry decided to send Captain Adams in the *Vandalia* to meet the Governor of the Province at Uraga.

Eleven days afterwards the meeting took place; and in the interval, entertainments

were interchanged by the American and Japanese officers. At one of two given by Capt. Buchanan, the Governor of Uraga, as we have seen in Keying and other high Chinese officials, at once fell in with foreign observances in toasting and speechifying.—Captain Buchanan proposed the health of the Emperor of Japan, which was drank standing "with all the honors," and was acknowledged by the Governors of Uraga, who in return similarly proposed the health of the President of the United States. The Japanese took their liquor freely, especially champagne, greatly admiring the glassware that contained them; and expressed a hope that the time was at hand when they would be at liberty to visit foreign countries in steamers and ships of three masts.

It was during this interval that an officer of the squadron approached Yedo, and if he did not actually enter it, at least was near enough to judge of its appearance, and to ascertain, what, however, we believe a surveying party had done before, that close to the shore there is five fathoms water, so that it can be approached by large ships.—The city is in the form of a crescent, and stands on an extensive plain with a magnificent background of the mountains and wooded country; but it seems to possess no striking public buildings, while the dwelling houses are generally of one story, and therefore, nothing imposing in their appearance, except their vast numbers, and space they occupy. The population of the capital has, however been greatly exaggerated, for though it is certainly great, the Japanese officers themselves placed Yedo third among the cities in the world, London, they said, being the first, and Paris the second.

On the 8th, the preparations were completed for the reception of the Commodore, who, by the bye, insisted upon the removal of the screen-work which extended from the shore to the hall, and which shut out the public gaze. Between 11 and 12 o'clock, the marines having been mustered by Major Zeilin, and the sailors by Lieut. Pegram, the whole in twenty-nine boats under command of Capt. Buchanan, who conveyed the cortege to the shore, and waited the arrival of the Commodore and suite, consisting of Capt. Adams, the Secretary, Mr. O. H. Perry, and the interpreters, Dr. S. W. Williams and Mr. J. L. C. Portman, who landed about noon, under a salute of seventeen guns from the *Macedonian*, the men in the boats standing up, and the officers on shore being uncovered. The procession then moved forward, the band playing "Hail Columbia" and the "President's March."

On entering the hall, the Commodore was received by four Commissioners, appointed for the purpose. They were:

- 1st. Hayashi, with the title of *Daigaku no Kama*, or Prince Councillor.
- 2d. Ido, Prince of Taus-sima, (the group of islands lying between Corea and Japan.)
- 3d. Idzuma, Prince of Mimasaki, (a principality lying west of Minco.)
- 4th. Udono, second assistant of the Board of Revenue.

The party being seated, the flag of Japan was run up on board the *Powhatan*, and saluted with thirty-one guns from the launches, which after another salute of seventeen guns was given to the Japanese High Commissioner, who through the interpreter presented his compliments and welcome to the Commodore and his officers, and particularly inquired about the health of the former. At a sign given, the servants in attendance brought in laquered stands with tea and saki, sweetmeats and other conserves, and placed one beside each officer. The regalement seems to have been much the same as that which in China generally precedes the transaction of business with foreign officials; and while it was going on there was time to take a note of the place of meeting. The hall, which had been run up with great celerity, was about fifty feet long, forty wide, and twelve high, and surrounded with magnificent japonicas, some of them thirty feet in height, and in full bloom. Seats and tables about two feet high, covered with red cloth, extended the whole length of the apartment. The floor was covered with white mats, about three feet long by two wide; and the place was heated by highly ornamented braziers placed on beautiful Ja-

pan stands. The pillars supporting the erection were ornamented with purple crape, and the walls were richly adorned with painting of birds and flowers. The hall was situated about five hundred yards from the landing place, and was commanded by the ships, which lay with their broadsides to it. Several native artists were present taking sketches of the strangers.

The refreshments being over, the Commodore and his personal staff were conducted by the Japanese Commissioners into another room in the rear, the entrance of which was covered with crape. The conference lasted three hours, and was carried on through the Dutch language, which the Japanese interpreters, Mats-ma-ki, Mich-i-tso, and Mr. Portman, the Commodore's clerk, spoke fluently. A very favorable answer was given to the President's Letter, which we presume was in terms a repetition of President Fillmore's; and it is stated that Commodore Perry was fully satisfied on all points suggested by him, which, we again presume were in accordance with Mr. Secretary Webster's letter of Instructions to Commodore Aulick accompanying the first letter to the Emperor. A draft treaty, in English, Dutch, Chinese, and Japanese, was put into the hands of the Japanese Commissioners, who said that it would receive due consideration; but the old Emperor had died since Commodore Perry was there last year, and his successor was a young man, who would require to consult his Council before coming to a determination; and the Commodore was reminded that the Japanese did not act with the same rapidity as Americans did; which was thus illustrated: Should several Japanese meet together, desiring to visit the American ships, one would say: "It is a beautiful morning?" to which another would add, "How pleasant it is!" Then a third would remark, "There is not then a wave to be seen upon the water;" at length a fourth would suggest "Come let us go and see the ships."

That the preliminaries of a treaty would be settled during the present visit was, however, more than probable. Its leading provisions, it is said, will be the opening of three or more ports of Japan to the commerce of the United States, and securing supplies of coals for the steamers of that country.—In other respects the treaty, concluded or proposed, is understood to be nearly a counterpart of that with China, except, it is said, that the Japanese objected to a clause admitting all other countries to the same privileges as America; not like the Chinese, by whom, and not by Sir Henry Pottinger, as is generally supposed, the privileges of the English Treaty, were extended to all foreign countries. The Japanese would manifest more sagacity, and save themselves from incalculable vexation, were they to determine on allowing other nations to enjoy the same immunities as America, and no other, modeling all future treaties on precisely the same terms. But nothing can be as yet certainly known on the subject, for the *Susquehanna*, having been placed at the disposal of Mr. McLane, the Minister to China, and being under orders to be in Hong Kong in the beginning of April, was dispatched on the morning of the 24th of March, the very day a Conference was to have been held for the purpose of considering the treaty.

Before the interview broke up, the Commodore mentioned that he proposed to give his officers leave to go on shore for recreation. To this no great objection was made, and we believe that within a few days afterwards several of the officers were taking exercise on shore. Rev. E. C. Bittinger, the Chaplain, made several excursions among the villages and cornfields, which last he found in high cultivation. The houses were generally thatched, but those of the better sort were covered with tiles, having yards and small gardens within enclosures.

The following day, the same gentleman, finding the people neither unfriendly nor indisposed to receive him, and having obtained leave to go on shore, determined to visit two large cities some miles off, Kanagawa and Kasacca, and with that view crossed an arm of the bay, which shortened the distance by several miles. He then proceeded through Kanagawa, supposed to contain from one to two hundred thousand inhabitants; and from the immense crowds that

poured out everywhere to see the stranger, there can be no doubt of the population being very great. The crowds however, caused no inconvenience or impediment, for on a wave of the hand from the Japanese officials, who accompanied Mr. Bittinger, the people cleared a passage—and afterwards, a messenger having been sent forward for the purpose, the people packed themselves at the sides of the houses, and left the centre of the streets clear for the stranger. He entered some of the houses, which he found primitive in their furniture and arrangements; but compared with other Oriental dwellings of the same class, neat, clean and comfortable.—In some of them he observed clocks of Japanese manufacture. He also visited several temples, which though smaller than in China, have more gilding on their walls, and ornaments on their idols, and generally are in better order. The priests as well as the people were distinguished for their courtesy.

The cities thus visited were not only very extensive, (estimated to be six miles long,) but with wide, well formed streets.—Kasacca is from 15 to 20 miles distant, by land, from the ships; and Mr. Bittinger being thus necessarily long absent, some anxiety was felt about him. As he was returning, a Japanese official put into his hands an order from the Commodore for all officers to return on board, and shortly afterwards, a courier mounted on a splendid black horse, delivered a similar dispatch, and finding it was understood and acted on, turned round, and galloped back again to report the approach of the American officer, who concluded his journey by torch-light, and found on his arrival that everything that had occurred had been noted, even the number of buttons on his coat being recorded.

Four days after the interview, the presents were interchanged, time having been required to erect places for their reception. Those for the Emperor consisted of, among other things—a Railway with steam engine—an Electric Telegraph—a Surf Boat—a Life Boat—a Printing Press—a Fine Lorgnette—a set of Audubon's American Ornithology, splendidly bound—Plates of American Indians—Maps of different States of America—Agricultural Implements, with all the modern improvements—a piece of Cloth—a bale of Cotton—a Stove—Rifles—Pistols and Swords—Champagne—Cordials and American Whiskey.

And for the Empress, (presuming there is one,)—a Telescope—a Lorgnette, in a gilded case—a Lady's toilet-box gilded—a Scarlet Velvet Dress—a changeable Silk Dress, flowered—a splendid Robe—Audubon's illustrated Works—a handsome set of China—a Mantlepiece Clock—a Parlor Stove—a box of fine Wines—a box of Perfumery—a box of Fancy Soaps.

Of the other presents, perhaps the one most valued was a copy of Webster's complete dictionary to one of the Imperial Interpreters. To the high officers were given books, rifles, pistols, swords, wines, cloths, maps, stoves, clocks and cordials, the last of which they fully appreciated, and, as regards clocks, when it was proposed to bring an engineer from the shipboard to set them agoing, the Japanese said there was no occasion for that, for they had clock-makers in Yedo who understood them perfectly. They were curious to know however about Ericsson's Caloric Engine, of which they had heard, but, from the Commodore at any rate, we suspect they would not receive a very favorable opinion of its practical utility.

Whatever may be thought of some of the other presents, the Railway and Telegraph, at which the world at the time was disposed to laugh, were happy hits. The rail is only about 300 yards in all, but being formed in a circle, the carriage can be driven at the rate of 40 miles or more. Just at first the Japanese were chary of venturing into the car, but after a single trial, there was much good humored competition for places. The Telegraph still more astonished them, but they will speedily understand it, and may possibly by this time be laying down the wires for themselves.

Ten thousand pounds of fine Licking county Wool was bought yesterday by Sessions & Co., at from 30 to 37 cents per lb.—[O. S. Journal.]